



CITY OF RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA

March 12, 2002

Mayor

James M. Thor

Mayor Pro Tempore

Gary Thompson

Council Members

Neil C. Blais

Carol Gamble

Christy Riley

Ms. Kaoru Cruz
Supervision Senior (South Section)
Office of Local Assistance
California Integrated Waste Management Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Cruz:

The City of Rancho Santa Margarita is currently in the process of preparing our Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE). We have hired Michael Balliet Consulting to assist in this project and a review of project activities shows that we are 90% completed. Our delay in submitting this planning document is due to the recent automation of the County of Orange IWMD landfill disposal record keeping practices. Just last week we were finally able to obtain 3rd Quarter 2001 landfill data for our jurisdiction. We have also received preliminary 4th Quarter 2001 disposal data. However, a significant portion of self-haul tonnage appears to be missing (average is over 1,000 tons, while current IWMD report shows 10 tons).


The City of Rancho Santa Margarita chose to use calendar year 2001, as it's base-year, since we are basically creating a community out of previous open space and ranch lands. During calendar year 2000, we were in the process of tremendous growth and believe that any waste generation data gathered then would not have provided an accurate representation of our waste stream.

The City of Rancho Santa Margarita has scheduled a review of draft SRRE, HHWE, and NDFE documents with the County of Orange Local Task Force (LTF) on April 11, 2002. Throughout this process we have been in contact with Melissa Vargas, the Office of Local Assistance staff person responsible for the City of Rancho Santa Margarita. We will continue to keep her apprised of our progress.



Given the variable of LTF review, our current timetable is to have draft documents submitted to the County by no later than Monday, March 25, 2002. Once LTF comments are available to us (approximately April 19th) we will update our planning documents accordingly. This would allow us to submit completed documents to your office by May 1, 2002. Formal submission of the SRRE, HHWE and NDFE may be delayed until the end of June, if we are required to submit these documents to the LTF for a final review.

Sincerely,


Thomas E. Wheeler, P.E.
City Engineer